

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strike through~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please CANCEL claim 7 and AMEND claims 8, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17-22, 25, 27, and 30 in accordance with the following:

1. (original) An image generation system which generates or edits an image using a plurality of image generation devices, comprising:

- a division unit dividing a target image into a plurality of divided images;
- a providing unit providing a reference image corresponding to the target image to be displayed on the plurality of image generation devices;
- a distribution unit distributing a plurality of divided images obtained by said division unit to corresponding image generation devices, and distributing the reference image to the image generation devices;
- a display unit displaying the divided image and the reference image in the image generation device; and
- an integration unit integrating divided images generated or edited by the plurality of image generation devices.

2. (original) An image distribution device for use in an image generation system which generates or edits an image using a plurality of image generation devices, comprising:

- a division unit dividing a target image into a plurality of divided images;
- a providing unit providing a reference image corresponding to the target image to be displayed on the plurality of image generation devices;
- a distribution unit distributing a plurality of divided images obtained by said division unit to corresponding image generation devices, and distributing the reference image to the image generation devices; and
- an integration unit integrating divided images generated or edited by the plurality of image generation devices.

3. (original) An image generation device in a plurality of image generation devices

for use in an image generation system which generates or edits an image using the plurality of image generation devices, comprising:

a display unit receiving from an image distribution device a divided image obtained by dividing a target image and a reference image corresponding to the target image and displaying the divided image and the reference image; and

a transmission unit generating an image corresponding to the divided image at an instruction of a user, and transmitting the image to the image distribution device.

4. (original) A method of generating an image by generating or editing an image using a plurality of image generation devices, comprising:

dividing a target image into a plurality of divided images;

providing a reference image corresponding to the target image to be displayed on the plurality of image generation devices;

distributing a plurality of divided images to corresponding image generation devices, and distributing the reference image to the image generation devices;

displaying the divided image and the reference image in the image generation device; and

integrating divided images generated or edited by the plurality of image generation devices.

5. (original) A propagation signal transmitting a program, which is executed by a computer, for providing a method of generating an image by generating or editing an image using a plurality of image generation devices, said method comprising:

dividing a target image into a plurality of divided images;

providing a reference image corresponding to the target image to be displayed on the plurality of image generation devices;

distributing a plurality of divided images to corresponding image generation devices, and distributing the reference image to the image generation devices; and

integrating divided images generated or edited by the plurality of image generation devices.

6. (original) A storage medium storing a program for providing a method of generating an image by generating or editing an image using a plurality of image generation devices, said method comprising:

dividing a target image into a plurality of divided images;
providing a reference image corresponding to the target image to be displayed on the plurality of image generation devices;
distributing a plurality of divided images to corresponding image generation devices, and distributing the reference image to the image generation devices; and
integrating divided images generated or edited by the plurality of image generation devices.

7. (cancelled)

8. (currently amended) The system according to claim ~~7~~11, wherein said distribution unit distributes only a divided image requiring generation of a corresponding divided image to the image generation device.

A 9. (currently amended) The system according to claim ~~7~~11, wherein said distribution unit distributes together with the divided image to a corresponding image generation device a first identifier identifying the target image, and at least one of a second identifier identifying an area divided by said division unit and a third identifier identifying each layer.

10. (original) The system according to claim 9, wherein:
each image generation device assigns the first identifier and at least one of the second and third identifiers to a generated or edited divided image; and
said integration unit integrates divided images based on identifiers assigned to divided images generated or edited by the plurality of image generation devices.

11. (currently amended) An image generation system which generates or edits an image using a plurality of image generation devices, comprising:
a division unit having at least a function of dividing a target image into a plurality of areas and a function of dividing the target image into layers when the target image is formed by a plurality of layers;
a distribution unit distributing images divided by said division unit to corresponding image generation devices;
a generation unit generating or editing a divided image corresponding to the received

divided image in each image generation device; and

an integration unit integrating divided images generated or edited by the plurality of image generation devices, and

~~The system according to claim 7, wherein:~~

said distribution unit distributes time series information defining a moving picture to be generated together with the divided image to a corresponding image generation device; and

said image generation device generates a plurality of divided images corresponding to the received divided images according to the time series information.

12. (original) The system according to claim 11, wherein

said integration unit integrates the plurality of divided images generated by the plurality of image generation devices into a plurality of images.

A 13. (currently amended) An image generation system which generates or edits an image using a plurality of image generation devices, comprising:

a division unit having at least a function of dividing a target image into a plurality of areas and a function of dividing the target image into layers when the target image is formed by a plurality of layers;

a distribution unit distributing images divided by said division unit to corresponding image generation devices;

a generation unit generating or editing a divided image corresponding to the received divided image in each image generation device; and

an integration unit integrating divided images generated or edited by the plurality of image generation devices, and

~~The system according to claim 7, wherein:~~

said distribution unit distributes image movement information defining movement of an image element drawn in a distributed image together with the divided image to a corresponding image generation device; and

said image generation device generates a plurality of divided images corresponding to divided images received according to the image movement information.

14. (original) The system according to claim 13, wherein

said image movement information contains as a condition of defining movement of the image element at least one of information defining required time, information defining a time

interval of each frame

of moving picture, information defining enlargement or reduction of the image element, and information defining rotation of the image element.

15. (currently amended) An image generation system which generates or edits an image using a plurality of image generation devices, comprising:

a division unit having at least a function of dividing a target image into a plurality of areas and a function of dividing the target image into layers when the target image is formed by a plurality of layers;

a distribution unit distributing images divided by said division unit to corresponding image generation devices;

a generation unit generating or editing a divided image corresponding to the received divided image in each image generation device; and

an integration unit integrating divided images generated or edited by the plurality of image generation devices, and

~~The system according to claim 7, wherein:~~

said image generation device outputs a divided image being generated; and

said integration unit integrates divided images being generated from respective image generation devices; and

said distribution unit transmits an image integrated by said integration unit to each image generation device.

16. (original) The system according to claim 15, wherein
said image generation device outputs a divided image being generated at an instruction from a source of the divided image or at each predetermined time interval.

17. (currently amended) The system according to claim ~~7~~11, wherein:
said image generation device outputs a divided image in a difference data format; and
said integration unit regenerates a divided image by adding a newly received divided image to a previously received divided image, and integrates regenerated divided images.

18. (currently amended) The system according to claim ~~7~~11, further comprising
an alarm unit raising an alarm when a position of an image element contained in a target divided image are not consistent with a position of the same image element contained in

an adjacent divided images.

19. (currently amended) The system according to claim-~~7~~11, wherein said division unit divides a target image based on an arrangement of an image element in the target image or a characteristic of the target image.

20. (currently amended) The system according to claim-~~7~~11, wherein said division unit divides the target image such that a sum of lengths of division lines for dividing the target image is smallest.

21. (currently amended) The system according to claim-~~7~~11, wherein said division unit divides the target image depending on a number of image generation devices.

A1. 22. (currently amended) An image distribution device for use in an image generation system which generates or edits an image using a plurality of image generation devices, comprising:

a division unit having at least one of a function of dividing a target image into a plurality of areas and a function of dividing the target image into layers when the target image is formed by a plurality of layers;

a distribution unit distributing images divided by said division unit to corresponding image generation devices;

a generation unit generating or editing a divided image corresponding to the received divided image in each image generation device; and

an integration unit integrating divided images generated by the plurality of image generation devices, and

wherein:

said distribution unit distributes time series information defining a moving picture to be generated together with the divided image to a corresponding image generation device; and

said image generation device generates a plurality of divided images corresponding to the received divided images according to the time series information.

23. (original) An image generation device in a plurality of image generation devices for use in an image generation system which generates or edits an image using the plurality of image generation devices, comprising:

a generation unit receiving a divided image obtained by dividing a target image from an image distribution device, and generating a corresponding divided image; and

a transmission unit transmitting a divided image being generated at an instruction from said distribution unit or at each predetermined time interval.

24. (original) The device according to claim 23, further comprising
a display unit displaying an image obtained by integrating divided images being generated by the image distribution device.

25. (currently amended) A propagation signal transmitting a program, which is executed by a computer, for providing a method of generating an image by generating or editing an image using a plurality of image generation devices, said method comprising:

providing at least a function for dividing a target image into a plurality of areas and a function for dividing the target image into layers when the target image is formed by a plurality of layers;

distributing the divided images divided by said function to corresponding image generation device;

generating or editing a divided image corresponding to the received divided image in each image generation device; and

integrating divided images generated by the plurality of image generation device, and wherein:

said distributing distributes time series information defining a moving picture to be generated together with the divided image to a corresponding image generation device; and

said generating or editing generates a plurality of divided images corresponding to the received divided images according to the time series information.

26. (original) A propagation signal transmitting a program, which is executed by a computer, for providing a method of generating an image by generating or editing an image using a plurality of image generation devices, said method comprising:

receiving a divided image obtained by dividing a target image from an image distribution device, and generating a corresponding divided image; and

transmitting a divided image being generated at an instruction from said image distribution device or at each predetermined time interval.

27. (currently amended) A storage medium storing a program for providing a method of generating an image by generating or editing an image using a plurality of image generation devices, said method comprising:

providing at least a function for dividing a target image into a plurality of areas and a function for dividing the target image into layers when the target image is formed by a plurality of layers;

distributing the divided images divided by said function to corresponding image generation device;

generating or editing a divided image corresponding to the received divided image in each image generation device; and

integrating divided images generated by the plurality of image generation device, and wherein:

said distributing distributes time series information defining a moving picture to be generated together with the divided image to a corresponding image generation device; and

said generating or editing generates a plurality of divided images corresponding to the received divided images according to the time series information.

28. (original) A storage medium storing a program for providing a method of generating an image by generating or editing an image using a plurality of image generation devices, said method comprising:

receiving a divided image obtained by dividing a target image from an image distribution device, and generating a corresponding divided image; and

transmitting a divided image being generated at an instruction from said image distribution device or at each predetermined time interval.

29. (currently amended) A computer program product for generating an image by generating or editing an image using a plurality of image generation devices, said computer program product comprising:

a program code for dividing a target image into a plurality of divided images;

a program code for providing a reference image corresponding to the target image to be displayed on the plurality of image generation devices;

a program code for distributing a plurality of divided images to corresponding image generation devices, and distributing the reference image to the image generation devices;

a program code generating or editing a divided image corresponding to the received

divided image in each image generation device; and

a program code for integrating divided images generated or edited by the plurality of image generation devices.

30. (currently amended) A computer program product for generating an image by generating or editing an image using a plurality of image generation devices, said computer program product comprising:

a program code for providing at least a function for dividing a target image into a plurality of areas and a function for dividing the target image into layers when the target image is formed by a plurality of layers;

a program code for distributing the divided images divided by said function to corresponding image generation device; and

a program code for integrating divided images generated by the plurality of image generation device, and

wherein:

said distributing distributes time series information defining a moving picture to be generated together with the divided image to a corresponding image generation device; and

said generating or editing generates a plurality of divided images corresponding to the received divided images according to the time series information.

31. (original) A computer program product for generating an image by generating or editing an image using a plurality of image generation devices, said computer program product comprising:

a program code for receiving a divided image obtained by dividing a target image from an image distribution device, and generating a corresponding divided image; and

a program code for transmitting a divided image being generated at an instruction from said image distribution device or at each predetermined time interval.

32. (new) An image processing method, comprising:

dividing an image to be processed into portions;

transferring one of the portions and the image to an editor; and

allowing the portion to be edited by the editor with reference to the image.

33. (new) An image processing method, comprising:

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dividing an image to be processed into portions;
transferring a first one of the portions and the image to a first editor;
transferring a second one of the portions and the image to a second editor;
allowing the portion to be respectively edited by the first and second editors with
reference to the image;
updating the image with the portions responsive to the editing; and
transferring the updated image to the first and second editors.
